Written at Roosevelt Hospital -
Room 1122
9th Ave at 59th St
N.Y.C. 23
July 25th '66

Dear - very dear - dearest of Friends Nella & Arthur - I am writing on this line from Ouida's room in hospital (she is taking a little nap) She had two major operations - 4 hours on the operating table - last Tuesday July 19th - He removed the right Kidney (benign) & the urinary duct - the 1st a back incision & then a frontal right-side stomach to remove the duct - She went into hospital on July 13th & had been through exausting & extensive examinations - Then on the 18th the Surgeon insisted on an immediate operation the next day.

To-day I can report a magnificent recovery. She has just done her hair & called me to get some more Ardan Hair spray!! The surgeon could not believe Ouida's age - he said she had the body of a woman 15 years younger! I think we all have realized Ouida has been ailing for sometime - more than a year - & no wonder. - the right

Kidney has two thirds gone - useless -
The remaining third was bleeding. The bleeding started on our Vacation in Conn: & we had to return at once.

There is no cause to worry over post-operative problems. - She is 90 p.c on the way to recovery, with that tremendous will to live & again enjoy life someday soon - but not too soon. This we must watch with Quidas wilfull vitality !!! Dr Snyder her surgeon says a complete recovery will take about a year.

Quida joins me in love to you both - So much love - dear ones.

Ever & Ever your Forever Lost
Exhausted!

Basil

Dear Lord but the food here !!
it is ghastly, we are trying to cook at home - & take it to hospital Nella dear if only you were here with me of your delicacies !!